REMARKS

The Office Action dated March 2, 2009 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-17 and 21-25 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-17 and 21-25 stand rejected.

Applicants and the undersigned wish to thank Examiner Charles Rones and Examiner Chojnacki for the courtesies they extended in a telephone interview with the undersigned on April 28, 2009. During the interview, the pending Section 102 rejection based on U.S. Patent 6,647,383 to August, et al. (hereinafter referred to as "August") were discussed. Although no agreement was reached regarding allowance, the Examiners suggested amending the independent claims to include the recitations added herein. This amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

During the telephone interview, the undersigned argued that August does not describe or teach a method for displaying search results that includes: (i) assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to; (ii) displaying search results including the business community identifier and the sub-business community identifier associated with each displayed data file; and (iii) displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result

from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.

Examiner Chojnacki disagreed with the undersigned. Examiner Chojnacki requested that the portions of August cited by her in the pending Office Action relating to these claim recitations be addressed by Applicants. For each of these claim recitations, we will address each portion of August cited by the Examiner, and further show that August does not describe or teach the present claim recitations.

(I) *Assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to*: the Examiner has cited to the following portions of August: "Abstract; column 2, lines 62-67; column 3, lines 1-8, lines 30-34; column 3, lines 38-53; column 4, lines 6-22; column 12, lines 44-57". We will address each section herein:

The Abstract of August provides as follows:

> A system and method for information searching comprising determination of, in fine granularity, a Community of Interest (COI), further data mining in search results, using at least one of COI and expert preferences to identify important knowledge, formulation and manipulation of results, and summarization of search results into a document like entity with dynamic attributes described. More particularly, the invention relates to a system and method for providing interactive dialogue and iterative search functions to find information on a large network of servers such as the world wide web.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Abstract of August does not describe, suggest or even mention *assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases, wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.*

Column 2, lines 62-67 and Column 3, lines 1-8, which are in the Background of the Invention section of the application, provide as follows:

> There is a need to help the user collect the data from a number of servers, process the data to reveal the explicit and non-explicit information, manipulate the information, use it to refine a search, extract original documents, reformulate a query, and modify a component or policy of a query. This should be done within the knowledge base or personality of the user in mind, with text and graphical elements most likely to represent a model used by the Community of Interest the user is from, such as an investor. This should also be done in a manner so as to allow the user to borrow the knowledge of another experienced Community of Interest or expert in a given field. This should be done with or without sharing identity of the user.

Applicants acknowledge that Column 2, lines 62-67 and Column 3, lines 1-8 mention a "Community of Interest the user is from" and collecting data by borrowing "the knowledge of another experienced Community of Interest or expert in a given field." However, Applicants respectfully submit that Column 2, lines 62-67 and Column 3, lines 1-8 do not describe, suggest or even mention *assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.*

Column 3, lines 30-34, which are in the Background of the Invention section of the application, provide as follows:

> Many of the inputs suggested in this patent depend on either explicitly requested user data or passively accumulated user-level information on searching habits. We acknowledge the possible privacy implications of this but do not directly address these issues in this patent.

Applicants point out that Column 3, lines 30-34 actually describe accumulating user-level information so that searches can be based on a user's searching habits. In other words, the system described in August is focused on the user and what Community of Interest the user should be assigned to for searching purposes. August does not describe assigning identifiers

to data files that are stored in the system. Accordingly, Column 3, lines 30-34 do not describe, suggest or even mention *assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.*

Column 3, lines 38-53, which are in the Summary of the Invention section of the application, provide as follows:

> A system and method for providing interactive dialogue and iterative search functions to find information among a network of servers and to display results depicting overall distribution and relationship of results are provided. The system and method provide determination in fine granularity a Community of Interest (COI) and further evaluation of search results using COI and/or expert preferences to identify important knowledge, formulate, manipulate, and display results, and summarize search results into a document like entity with dynamic attributes. The invention is generally applicable to an information search on a large network of servers such as the world wide web where there is such a vast amount of information that it is becoming increasingly important to overcome the aforementioned difficulties in order to effectively deal with the overwhelming amount of data that a search engine might return on any given search.

Applicants acknowledge that Column 3, lines 38-53 describe search functions to find information among a network of servers, displaying search results, determining a COI for a user, and displaying search results based on the COI. However, Column 3, lines 38-53 do not describe, suggest or even mention *assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.*

Column 4, lines 6-22, which are in the Summary of the Invention section of the application, provide as follows:

> Another advantage of the present invention is the determining of COI categories in fine granularity, representing COI categories and representing them differently for different COI's, representing relationships among COI categories and identifying an individual and the COI or COI's to which he or she belongs.
>
> Another advantage of the present invention is the handling of shifting or dynamic elements over time (resources and sources, access, individual's experiences and skill set, age, preferences) by creating an expert record, modifying taxonomy over time to reflect changes in individual or group usage, time or society structures within which an individual operates (company, school, group).
>
> Another advantage of the present invention is the provision of a system of graphic and audio representations of data that assist in understanding (for different populations and skill sets).

This section of August again describes a system that focuses on placing each user within a Community of Interest so that searches can be performed based on prior searches performed by other members of the same COI, and search results can be displayed based on preferences attributed to the corresponding COI. Moreover, the "fine granularity" mentioned in August relates to the system seeking to categorized each user "in fine granularity" within a particular COI (i.e., the August system tries to provide as many COI categories as possible for assigning people to so that searches and search results can better relate to a particular COI – and hopefully relate better to the user performing the search and assigned to that particular COI). In any event, Column 4, lines 6-22 do not describe, suggest or even mention *assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.*

Column 12, lines 44-57, which are in the Detailed Description of the Invention section of the application, provide as follows:

> Profile data collection function--Interactive form to obtain user information including but not limited to: name, address, age, education, clubs, interests, employer, family members, groups, church, language,

> sources used, etc. The user can enter all or part or none of the information. The system will identify important characteristics of the user as the user continues to conduct searches, and select items from the results list. Items that are important will be added to the profile through a learning process by the system. Template profiles may be used that correspond with other members of know Communities of Interest in order to pre-populate some profiles, and make the provisioning easier for the user. In a corporation, for example, databases such as Peoplesoft may be used to identify characteristics of users.

Once again this section of August further describes a system that focuses on placing each user within a Community of Interest so that searches can be performed based on prior searches performed by other members of the same COI, and search results can be displayed based on preferences attributed to the corresponding COI. August is a searching system that is based on assigning a user to a COI. August makes no mention of assigning business community identifiers or sub-business community identifiers to data files that are stored in the system. Accordingly, Column 12, lines 44-57 do not describe, suggest or even mention *assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.*

Accordingly, contrary to what is stated in the Office Action, August does not describe, suggest or even mention *assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.*

(II) *Displaying search results from the plurality of databases, each search result includes the business community identifier and the sub-business community identifier associated therewith*: Because August does not describe or teach assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases..., August cannot describe or teach displaying search results

including the business community identifier and the sub-business community identifier associated with each displayed data file. Accordingly, contrary to what is stated in the Office Action, August does not describe, suggest or even mention this displaying step.

(III) *Displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection*: the Examiner has cited to the following portions of August: "Fig. 6, column 3, lines 10-14, lines 57-61; column 4, lines 6-22; column 5, lines 13-27; column 10, lines 29-42; column 12, lines 16-57; column 13, lines 1-12, lines 61-67; column 14, lines 1-11". We will address each section herein:

Column 3, lines 10-14 and lines 57-61, which are in the Background of the Invention section and Summary of the Invention section of the application, provide as follows:

> The results of the search should also be organized into a summary document to reveal the predictive model, sources, salient facts of the result, and links to resulting elements. This would help create content of a document about the subject search...The results of the search should also be organized into groups, where all of the items in a group discuss similar topics.
>
> Another advantage of the present invention is the disambiguation of text by the use of lexical indexes, expert databases and known mental models for subject-specific and area-specific data whereby query results can be characterized based upon target user knowledge.

Applicants respectfully submit that these sections of August do not describe, suggest or even mention *displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first*

subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.

Column 4, lines 6-22, which are in the Summary of the Invention section of the application and which are also cited for supposedly showing claim recitation (I) above, provide as follows:

> Another advantage of the present invention is the determining of COI categories in fine granularity, representing COI categories and representing them differently for different COI's, representing relationships among COI categories and identifying an individual and the COI or COI's to which he or she belongs.
>
> Another advantage of the present invention is the handling of shifting or dynamic elements over time (resources and sources, access, individual's experiences and skill set, age, preferences) by creating an expert record, modifying taxonomy over time to reflect changes in individual or group usage, time or society structures within which an individual operates (company, school, group).
>
> Another advantage of the present invention is the provision of a system of graphic and audio representations of data that assist in understanding (for different populations and skill sets).

This section of August again describes a system that focuses on placing each user within a Community of Interest so that searches can be performed based on prior searches performed by other members of the same COI, and search results can be displayed based on preferences attributed to the corresponding COI. Moreover, the "fine granularity" mentioned in August relates to the system seeking to categorized each user "in fine granularity" within a particular COI (i.e., the August system tries to provide as many COI categories as possible for assigning people thereto so that searches and search results can better relate to a particular COI – and

hopefully relate better to the user performing the search and assigned to that particular COI). Thus, the COI categories as described in August are used to categorize people (i.e., users) that are using the system. Accordingly, Column 4, lines 6-22 do not describe, suggest or even mention *displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.*

Column 5, lines 13-27, which are in the Detailed Description section of the application, provide as follows:

> The present invention has a number of enhancements or policies above and beyond the traditional search function. The general purpose of these policies is to understand the general needs of the user when conducting a search, to narrow retrieved items to logical subgroups, to present the results in a format that can be manipulated and understood by the specific user given a Community of Interest, or COI, age, background, etc., and to retain evidence of searches through learning about the individual's preferences, Communities of Interest, and history. The system has the ability to formulate a personality for a person based on COI and learning. Or, a person can administer a personality to represent a customer group, user group, constrained group, etc.
>
> COI (Community of Interest) is a policy that yields improved search results.

Again, this section of August describes placing individual users within COIs for producing better search results and displaying the results based on the preferences attributed to the user's COI. Column 5, lines 13-27 do not describe, suggest or even mention *displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on*

the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.

Column 10, lines 29-42, which are in the Detailed Description section of the application, provide as follows:

> The page-by-page GUI sequence interface 24 performs a number of functions and provides tools and guides to assist in information searches. It comprises a profile data collection function, a search query formulation function, a spell check function, definition disambiguation function, data display function, "tell me about the data" function, a prioritize features subfunction--by user selection and a prioritize features subfunctionby COI. It further comprises tools to help formulate a query, maps, charts, dictionaries, cross references, pushpins, calculators, and similar tools. It still further comprises a guide to reference materials (what's out there for whom), and a guide to experts (who's out there to ask). The system will learn about groups and individuals and, therefore, will be a reference resource itself.

This section of August describes the different functions and tools that can be used by users when performing information searches. However, Column 10, lines 29-42 do not describe, suggest or even mention *displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the*

displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.

Column 12, lines 16-57, which are in the Detailed Description section of the application, will be addressed in separate portions. For example, we will first address Column 12, lines 16-25, which relates to Figure 5 of August. However, in order to fully consider this section, we will also consider the immediately preceding paragraphs. Thus, Column 11, line 46 through Column 12, line 25 provides as follows:

> As shown in Fig. 5, page-by-page GUI sequence generator 24 further includes a process 170 for handling cases wherein a search has returned a large number of elements, or rather a number exceeding a preset threshold. Data classification engine 54, in backend 20, is invoked to analyze the data as a first step 172. This will attempt to place elements into feature clusters or groups. This process can involve accessing information about the elements derived from previous searches by all users, searches by users in the same COI, and any of the databases mentioned in this patent. A simple example might entail a broad clustering of the domains from which each element was drawn based on access patterns by members of different COI's. To minimize the amount of computation necessary per search session, the Data classification engine is expected to perform some or all of its learning functions offline.
>
> After the Data classification engine has analyzed the data, a decision 174 is made to determine whether there is a minimal number of groups or not. If the number is minimal, processing continues at node 176 and data is displayed by display function 178. The data can be displayed as a view of all high-level data 180, or alternately, a check 182 of the user profile can be performed (in Profile Catalog 50), to determine how, at step 184, to display the data. For example, the display might comprise a table with rows and columns determined by data features. The information derived by the Data classification engine will also help inform the display process.
>
> If the number of groups is not minimal, it can be large. If so, processing continues at node 186. A database check 188 is performed on the Source Characterization Database 52 and the Expert Knowledge Database 48, looking for the groups that are important. If a group is interesting to a single COI, processing continues at node 190, and a view function 192 shows all data with features preferred by the COI based on references to

> Profile Catalogue 50, Source Characterization Database 52, and Knowledge Database 48.
>
> On the other hand, if database check 188 finds a group is interesting to multiple COIs, processing continues at node 194 rather than node 190. A view function 196 might present a view of the data with groups illustrated as with high level view 180, or alternately, the user might be presented with a prompt 198 wherein definitions of features are presented in a list, and the user selects groups from a list. For example, exemplary features might be sources, authors, dates, studies, conferences, etc. A redisplay function 200 then displays the user-selected features.

In other words, Figure 5 of August describes a process for handling cases wherein a search returns a large number of documents. The system will analyze the data and then attempt to place the documents in groups for display purposes. The August analysis can involve accessing information about the documents derived from previous searches by all users, and searches by users in the same COI. In the case where there is a minimal number of groups, the search results are displayed either as a view all data at a high-level, or based on the user profile. For example, in August, the display might comprise a table with rows and columns determined by data features. In the case where there are more than a minimal number of groups, the August system determines, based on the expert databases for the different COIs, whether the search result groups are important to a single COI or multiple COIs. If a group is interesting to a single COI, the data is displayed based on features preferred by the COI. If a group is interesting to multiple COIs, then the August system will either display the data with groups illustrated as with high level view, or the user might be presented with a prompt wherein definitions of features are presented in a list, and the user selects groups from a list.

In any event, none of August, including its discussion of Figure 5, describes or suggests *displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the*

user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.

The remainder of Column 12, lines 16-57 to be discussed includes Column 12, lines 26-57, which provides as follows:

> As an example, FIG. 6 shows a GUI architecture 202 for displaying search results when a large number of elements has been returned. *GUI architecture 202 comprises a bird's eye view 203, a more detailed view 204, and a fully detailed view 205. The bird's eye view 203 is analogous to a geographic map showing a high level overview of the search results. The more detailed view 204 is analogous to zooming in to an intermediate level on a geographic map, and the fully detailed view 205 is analogous to zooming in to the most detailed view on a geographic map. View 205 will provide details of all data, means to retrieve pages such as links, etc. The user, of course, will only be presented with one of the above-mentioned views at a time, and will be able to select more detailed or less detailed views as needed.* (Emphasis added.)
>
> Page by page GUI sequences in the interface include features and functionality as described above in connection with the method of the present invention and in greater detail below:
>
> Profile data collection function--Interactive form to obtain user information including but not limited to: name, address, age, education, clubs, interests, employer, family members, groups, church, language, sources used, etc. The user can enter all or part or none of the information. The system will identify important characteristics of the user as the user continues to conduct searches, and select items from the results list. Items that are important will be added to the profile through a learning process by the system. Template profiles may be used that correspond with other members of know Communities of Interest in order to pre-populate some profiles, and make the provisioning easier for the user. In a corporation, for example, databases such as Peoplesoft may be used to identify characteristics of users.

This portion of August discusses Figure 6 which describes displaying a large number of search results. In August, the search results can be displayed in "*a bird's eye view 203, a more detailed view 204, and a fully detailed view 205.*" August goes on to describe the

bird's eye view as analogous to a geographic map showing a high level overview of the search results; the more detailed view as being analogous to zooming in to an intermediate level on a geographic map; and the fully detailed view as being analogous to zooming in to the most detailed view on a geographic map, wherein the fully detailed view provides details of all data, means to retrieve pages such as links, etc. In other words, in August, the search results are returned – and they can be viewed at a high level, or with an intermediate amount of detail, or with full detail. However, the number of search results are not being reduced in August; rather, August describes displaying the same search results but merely providing more detail for each of the search results. This is not what is being claimed in the present invention wherein subsets of data are being displayed using a search zoom tool.

Accordingly, August does not describe or suggest *displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.*

Column 13, lines 1-12, which are in the Detailed Description section of the application, provide as follows:

> ...A larger body of results can be obtained by selecting one of the nodes and delving deeper into a source, a feature, or another characteristic of the search results. The user can see that many of the results come from the magazine, "Living," and then decide to ask to view more of the "Living" references online.
>
> Tools to help formulate queries--These tools help the user with typical calculations, definitions, directories of resources, maps, conversion

> tables, etc. Having access to such things as a user is formulating a query can help the user to more clearly describe the request. A toolbar can be customized to match Communities of Interest.

This section of August describes formulating search queries, and performing additional searches from a list of search results. However, Column 13, lines 1-12 do not describe, suggest or even mention *displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.*

Column 13, line 61 to Column 14, line 11, which are in the Detailed Description section of the application, provide as follows:

> Data display function--The data display application uses the Personality Profile Catalogue 50 to identify the user's COI. There is a corresponding generic profile of Display types in the Display Techniques Database 58. These profiles of display techniques are available to be used when little is known about the preferences of the user. If the user is continually presented with a type of display and chooses another one from the toolbar into which the resulting elements may be transferred, then the profile is updated to reflect the preference. As the population of users in the same COI continue to use the display functions, the system will learn more about the group as a population and will ultimately learn how to create a better Display Techniques Database entry for that COI. There may be refined differentiation among user groups observed in this manner and the databases will ultimately contain many more finely differentiated databases of Personality Profiles and Display Technique preferences.

This section of August describes displaying search results according to the Community of Interest (COI) that the user has been assigned to, wherein the COI is assigned profiles of

display techniques based on other users included within the COI. However, Column 13, line 61 to Column 14, line 11 do not describe, suggest or even mention *displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.*

Applicants respectfully submit that this Amendment places this application in condition for allowance. If the Examiner wishes to discuss this amendment any further, please feel free to contact the undersigned directly.

The rejection of Claims 1-17 and 21-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,647,383 to August is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 2, 10, 12 and 22 under both Section 102 and 103. Accordingly, Applicants have addressed dependent Claims 2, 10, 12 and 22 under both rejections even though the Office Action acknowledges at page 13 that August does not describe "that zooming narrows the search results." It appears that these claims should not have been rejected under Section 102.

Initially, Applicants respectfully submit that August does not describe or suggest the claimed invention. More specifically, August does not describe or suggest assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases, wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to, and each sub-business

community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.

Moreover, August does not describe or suggest displaying a subset of search results as a result of a user selecting a search zoom tool, wherein the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of search results based on a business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and is based on a sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset that is included in the second subset and is based on a customized business community assigned to the user, as is described in the originally filed specification at, for example, paragraphs [0030] through [0036]. Rather, August describes tag clouds that are used to reduce a set of broad search results into multiple separate groups that are not subsets of each other. In contrast to the claimed invention, August describes at column 9, lines 11-22, that search results are presented as a "bird's eye view" in which each search result is grouped into between four and ten groups using scatter grams in order to show relationships among resulting groups using colors, shapes, or other attributes to differentiate the groups from each other. However, August does not describe that the search results may be increasingly narrowed using a search zoom tool, wherein each successively narrower subset of search results is included in a wider subset.

August describes a method of information searching using tag clouds that are based on communities of interest. The method includes gathering data from searches performed by a plurality of users. The data is analyzed to determine which searches have been performed and what the users did with the search results. The data is also analyzed to determine a popular pick for each search. The popular pick is the last URL that has been reached as a result of a search. Because the popular pick is the last URL that the user visited as a result of the search, it is assumed that that URL was the goal of the user's search. Both the popular pick and the search are stored in a database, along with user data that enables search results to be personalized for the user, such as age, apparent level of education, context of the person (work, school, shopping), and/or language skills used in the search. A lexical analysis is also completed for the search terms in order to personalize the search results for the user according to context. The lexical analysis enables search results to be personalized according

to the context of the search terms entered by the user. In addition, the search results may be personalized for the user based on the user's communities of interest based on such data as age, address, education, clubs, interests, employer, family members, groups, church, language, etc.

Claim 1 recites a method for displaying search results using a computer. The method includes "assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases, each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to, and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to...storing the data files within the plurality of databases wherein each data file includes the business community identifier and the sub-business community identifier assigned thereto...inputting into the computer user data including at least one of an organization associated with a user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user...assigning the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data...assigning the user to at least one customized business community by enabling the user to input the at least one customized business community into the computer...prompting the user to enter search terms into the computer for performing a search for information...displaying on the computer search results from the plurality of databases, each search result satisfies the entered search terms, each search result includes at least one of the stored data files and the business community identifier and the sub-business community identifier associated therewith...and displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes

each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection."

August does not describe or suggest a method for display search results using a computer, as is recited in Claim 1. More specifically, August does not describe or suggest assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases, wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to, and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.

Moreover, August does not describe or suggest displaying a subset of search results as a result of a user selecting a search zoom tool, wherein the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of search results based on a business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and is based on a sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset that is included in the second subset and is based on a customized business community assigned to the user. Rather, August describes displaying search results to a user based on previous searches completed by the user as well as other users, based on contextual processing of the entered search terms, and/or based on communities of interest to which the user belongs, wherein the search results are displayed via tag clouds that are used to reduce a set of broad search results into multiple separate groups that are not subsets of each other.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over August.

Claims 2-7 and 24 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-7 and 24 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-7 and 24 likewise are patentable over August.

Claim 8 recites a computer that includes a user interface and a processor, wherein the processor is programmed to "assign a business community identifier and a sub-business

community identifier to each data file stored within at least one database, each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to, and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to...store the data files within the at least one database wherein each data file includes the business community identifier and the sub-business community identifier assigned thereto...receive user data including at least one of an organization associated with a user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user...assign the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data...assign the user to at least one customized business community by enabling the user to input the at least one customized business community the user desires to be assigned to...prompt the user to enter search terms for performing a search for information...display on said user interface search results from the at least one database, each search result satisfies the entered search terms, each search result includes at least one of the stored data files and the business community identifier and the sub-business community identifier associated therewith...and display on said user interface a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the user interface, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search result based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection."

August does not describe or suggest a computer, as is recited in Claim 8. More specifically, August does not describe or suggest a computer that includes a processor programmed to assign a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within at least one database, wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned

to, and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.

Moreover, August does not describe or suggest a computer that includes a processor programmed to display a subset of search results as a result of a user selecting a search zoom tool, wherein the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of search results based on a business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and is based on a sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset that is included in the second subset and is based on a customized business community assigned to the user. Rather, August describes displaying search results to a user based on previous searches completed by the user as well as other users, based on contextual processing of the entered search terms, and/or based on communities of interest to which the user belongs, wherein the search results are displayed via tag clouds that are used to reduce a set of broad search results into multiple separate groups that are not subsets of each other.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 8 is submitted to be patentable over August.

Claims 9-17 and 25 depend from independent Claim 8. When the recitations of Claims 9-17 and 25 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 8, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 9-17 and 25 likewise are patentable over August.

Claim 21 recites a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for displaying search results on a user interface coupled to a computer, wherein the program includes a code segment that receives user data including at least one of an organization associated with a user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user. The code segment also "assigns a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within at least one database, each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to, and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to...stores the data files within the at least one database wherein each data file includes the business community identifier and the sub-business

community identifier assigned thereto...assigns the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data...assigns the user to at least one customized business community by enabling the user to input the at least one customized business community that the user desires to be assigned to...prompts the user to enter search terms for performing a search for information...displays on the user interface search results from the at least one database, each search result satisfies the entered search terms, each search result includes at least one of the stored data files and the business community identifier and the sub-business community identifier associated therewith...and displays on the user interface a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of the search results based on the business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and based on the sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset of the search results that is included in the second subset and based on the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, each of the subsets also based on the business community identifier and sub-business community identifier included within each search result, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection."

August does not describe or suggest a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for displaying search results on a user interface, as is recited in Claim 21. More specifically, August does not describe or suggest a computer program that includes a code segment that assigns a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within at least one database, wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to, and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.

Moreover , August does not describe or suggest a computer program that includes a code segment that displays a subset of search results as a result of a user selecting a search zoom tool, wherein the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of search

results based on a business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and is based on a sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset that is included in the second subset and is based on a customized business community assigned to the user. Rather, August describes displaying search results to a user based on previous searches completed by the user as well as other users, based on contextual processing of the entered search terms, and/or based on communities of interest to which the user belongs, wherein the search results are displayed via tag clouds that are used to reduce a set of broad search results into multiple separate groups that are not subsets of each other.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 21 is submitted to be patentable over August.

Claims 22 and 23 depend from independent Claim 21. When the recitations of Claims 22 and 23 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 21, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 22 and 23 likewise are patentable over August.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-17 and 21-25 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 2, 10, 12, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over August in further view of Henderson et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0009536) (Henderson) is respectfully traversed.

August is described above.

Henderson describes a collaborative knowledge management system (CKMS) that includes application interfaces collecting data objects from and providing data objects to respective application programs including, for example, word processing, spreadsheet, graphics, e-mail, general ledger, ERP and other programs and utilities. The data objects are associated with respective relationships identifying other data objects, applications and users (whereby users include, but are not limited to people, machines and software). A set of rules defines how the data objects are to react to various systems states and actions of the objects

of the relationships. Objects may be stored in a common format, or lingua franca, so that diverse applications and users may form, share and interrelate knowledge provided by the data objects and collaborate in the creation of new data objects and define new relationships.

Claim 2 depends from independent Claim 1, which is recited above.

Notably, the Office Action acknowledges at page 13 that August does not describe that "zooming narrows the search results." However, the Office Action asserts that Henderson describes a "zoom tool [that] includes a user interactive selection bar that enables the user to display a subset of the search results." However, Applicants submit, in contrast to what is asserted in the Office Action, that Henderson does not describe or teach assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases; and displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, wherein the search zoom tool includes a user interactive selection bar that enables the user to display a subset of the search results by selecting a type of search result on the selection bar that corresponds with the subset of the search results to be displayed, and wherein displaying a subset of the search results further comprises displaying the first subset of the search results when the user selects a business community type on the selection bar including each search result having a business community identifier that corresponds with the business community assigned to the user, displaying the second subset of the search results when the user selects a sub-business community type on the selection bar including each search result having a sub-business community identifier that corresponds with the sub-business community assigned to the user, and displaying the third subset of the search results when the user selects a customized business community type on the selection bar including each search result having a business community identifier that corresponds with the customized business community assigned to the user.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of August and Henderson does not describe or suggest a method for display search results using a computer, as is recited in Claim 1. More specifically, neither August nor Henderson, alone or in combination, describe or suggest assigning a business community identifier and a sub-business community

identifier to each data file stored within a plurality of databases, wherein each business community identifier represents a business community the corresponding data file is assigned to, and each sub-business community identifier represents a sub-business community the corresponding data file is assigned to.

Moreover, neither August nor Henderson, alone or in combination, describe or suggest displaying a subset of search results as a result of a user selecting a search zoom tool, wherein the search zoom tool enables the user to display a first subset of search results based on a business community assigned to the user, a second subset of the search results that is included in the first subset and is based on a sub-business community assigned to the user, and a third subset that is included in the second subset and is based on a customized business community assigned to the user.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 2, which depends on Claim 1, is submitted to be patentable over August in view of Henderson.

Claims 10 and 12 depend from independent Claim 8, which is recited above.

Claim 8 is patentable over August for the reasons set forth above. Henderson does not make up for the deficiencies of August. Thus, it is submitted that Claim 8 is patentable over August in view of Henderson for at least the reasons that correspond to those given above.

When the recitations of Claims 10 and 12 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 8, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 10 and 12 likewise are patentable over August in view of Henderson.

Claim 22 depends from independent Claim 21, which is recited above.

Claim 21 is patentable over August for the reasons set forth above. Henderson does not make up for the deficiencies of August. Thus, it is submitted that Claim 21 is patentable over August in view of Henderson for at least the reasons that correspond to those given above.

When the recitations of Claim 22 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 21, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claim 22 likewise is patentable over August in view of Henderson.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 2, 10, 12 and 22 under Section 103 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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